

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

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April 23, 2019

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Spectrum Caucus, we appreciate the Federal Communications Commission's (Commission) commitment to additional spectrum allocation, efficiency, and innovation. As you know, reallocating spectrum to meet the ever-growing demand for wireless services will be key to our global competitiveness in the race to next generation broadband networks, such as 5G.

To that end, we understand you are moving forward with a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking focused on shared commercial access to the 1675-1680 MHz band. We commend this proposal for shared federal and non-federal use in this band, which has enjoyed both bipartisan Congressional and Administration support for multiple years. In 2016, we – along with 15 of our colleagues – wrote the Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration expressing our support for shared commercial access to this band in a manner that protects federal radiosonde operations primarily led by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Since then, we have closely followed the effort to reallocate this band for shared commercial and federal use. We continue to believe that doing so is in the public interest and consistent with longstanding policy goals. We also recognize that this follows significant work done on proposals to reallocate this spectrum for use on a shared federal and non-federal basis and on alternative delivery methods for the critical weather data gathered by NOAA. We applaud these collaborative efforts as vital to maintaining our leadership in the global wireless marketplace.

For these reasons, we urge you to continue your work to ensure we have sufficient spectrum capacity necessary to support the development of next-generation wireless services. We look forward to working together further on this matter and on addressing our nation's wireless needs.

Sincerely,



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress

cc: Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Geoffrey Starks



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 6, 2019

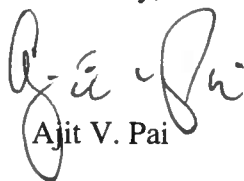
The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
2311 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Matsui:

Thank you for your letter supporting the my proposal to move forward with a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking focused on sharing commercial access to the 1675–1680 MHz band. Wireless broadband represents a critical component of economic growth, job creation, and global competitiveness. The President’s Fiscal Year 2020 budget—which “propos[es] legislative changes . . . that pertain to the FCC” and that “are designed to improve spectrum management and represent sound economic policy”—calls on the Commission to “either auction or use fee authority to assign spectrum frequencies between 1675–1680 megahertz for flexible use by 2020, subject to sharing arrangements with Federal weather satellites.” I agree with you and the President on opening this spectrum for commercial use so that’s exactly what I intend to do through this rulemaking proceeding.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai

Congresswoman, I really appreciate your support and advocacy on this, as with so many other spectrum issues!



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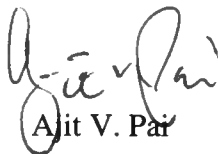
The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U.S. House of Representatives
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai

Congressman, thanks so much for your forward-looking advocacy on spectrum issues, including this one!